(b) how many of them have been declared sick;

(c) the number of workers employed in these units; and

(d) the number of workers that have been rendered unemployed due to sickness/lockout in these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) As reported by the Government of Rajasthan, the number of registered small scale industries in the State by June, 2002 was 91,305.

(b) According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) which compiles data on sick SSIs financed by scheduled commercial banks, the number of sick SSI units by the end of March, 2002 (latest available) in the State of Rajasthan was 6,206.

(c) and (d) Data on number of workers employed and rendered unemployed due to sickness/lockout are not maintained centrally.

Demands of associations of SSIs

1034. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI:
SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the demands made by several associations/ organisations pertaining to the Small Scale Industries during the last three years;

(b) the details of the demands accepted in principle by his Ministry; and

(c) the details of the action taken or proposed to be taken to fulfill their demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) During the last three years Small Scale Industries (SSI) associations and organisations have been raising various issues in respect of the impact of globalisation, credit, technology, marketing, infrastructure and regulatory laws concerning SSIs as well as matters related to customs and excise for consideration of Government.

concerning SSIs as well as matters related to customs and excise for consideration of Government.

(b) and (c) The promotion of SSIs has been a conscious policy of Government. Government have announced a comprehensive policy package on 30th August, 2000 to strengthen the SSI sector and to enhance its competitiveness both globally and domestically. The policy package provides for *inter-alia* easier access to credit, availability of collateral free composite loans upto Rs. 25 lakhs, capital subsidy for technology upgradation and improved infrastructure. Further action, in respect of the issues raised from time to time, is a continuous exercise, as various Ministries/agencies of Government are involved in resolving these issues.

Development and extension of SSIs

†1035. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that target has been fixed for development and extension of the small scale industries during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what would be the anticipated number of small scale industries functioning in the country at the end of the Plan;

(c) the number of people likely to be provided with jobs in such industries; and

(d) the number of people employed in small scale industries at the beginning of the Plan?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.